

Findings from the Institute's December 2002

INDIANA CITIZENS PLANNING SURVEY



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**Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
December 2002 Indiana Citizens Planning Survey**

The *Indiana Criminal Justice Institute December 2002 Indiana Citizens Planning Survey* was designed to assess Indiana residents' opinions and concerns about crime and other public safety issues. The instrument consisted of 34 questions covering perceptions, experiences, and knowledge related to the following topics:

- a. crime in local communities;
- b. the root cause of crime;
- c. the relationship between crime, alcohol, and illegal drugs;
- d. access to tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs among youth;
- e. automatic waivers to adult court for youth who commit certain crimes;
- f. access to justice records for youth by organizations that serve youth;
- g. the service needs of people victimized by violent crime and accessibility to those services;
- h. the prevalence of seat belt use and attitudes toward wearing seat belts;
- i. drowsy, distracted, aggressive, and alcohol-impaired driving; and
- j. terrorism preparedness.

Quota sampling was used to obtain a sample of 405 respondents representative of all Indiana adult residents based on race, sex, and age. Residency was defined as having lived in Indiana for at least three years.

Telephone interviews were conducted by professional interviewers at the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory from specialized facilities on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. Interviews were conducted from December 11 to December 17, 2002, with calls made between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday. Return calls were placed at other times if respondents so requested. Telephone numbers were selected using the random digit dialing method with known prefixes in Indiana counties.

Study interviewers were selected from the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory's pool of more than 100 trained interviewers. All interviewers had at least one year of interviewing experience; with some interviewers having more than four years experience. Regardless of past experience, all interviewers involved with the current study received at least four hours of general interviewer training and two additional hours of specific training on the Institute's planning survey.

Upon submitting the raw data file to the Institute, the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory noted that they "have no reason to believe there are any significant biases in the data collected for this research" due to such things as question wording, respondent inattention, [and] pace of speech by the interviewer. "Each of these is given special attention during interviewer training and the data collection phase so they are minimized as much as possible."

Study interviewers were given a set of answers titled "What the Respondent Might Like to Know" to provide standard answers to any questions raised by individuals contacted for participation in this study. Interviewers reported that most people contacted were polite and genuinely eager to participate.

Applying standard formulas recommended by the American Association for Public Opinion Research, the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory reported that they "believe, strongly, that the data we collected is [sic] representative of the residents of Indiana. . ." The maximum margin of error associated with survey results is +/- 4.9% at the 95% confidence level. In other words, it is expected that 95 out of 100 times any given finding reported here would be replicated within 4.9 percentage points either way if another representative sample of Indiana adult residents were to be drawn.

The questions asked and descriptive findings are presented in order in the following pages.

SCR1. Have you lived in Indiana for at least three years?

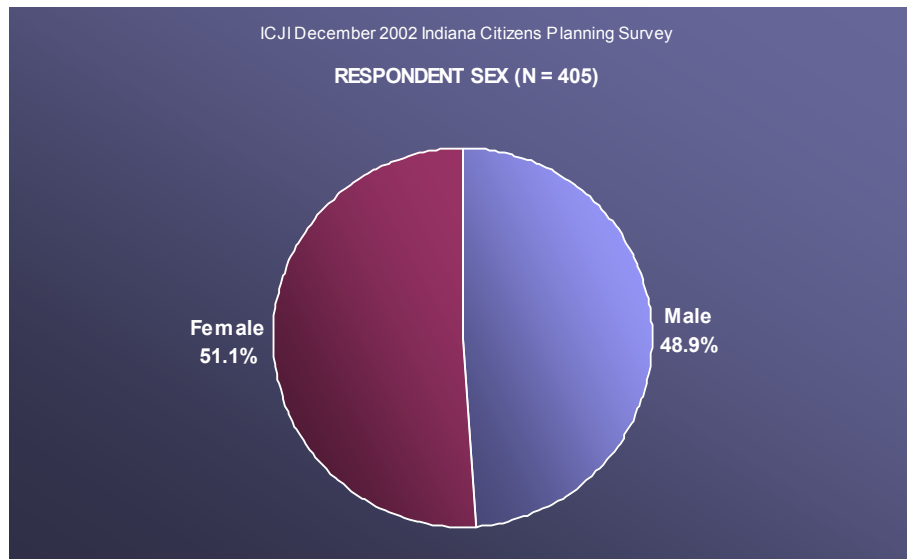
- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know
- d. No answer/refuse

Note: Only respondents who responded affirmatively to this question were surveyed.

SCR2. Record Respondent Gender.

- a. Female
- b. Male

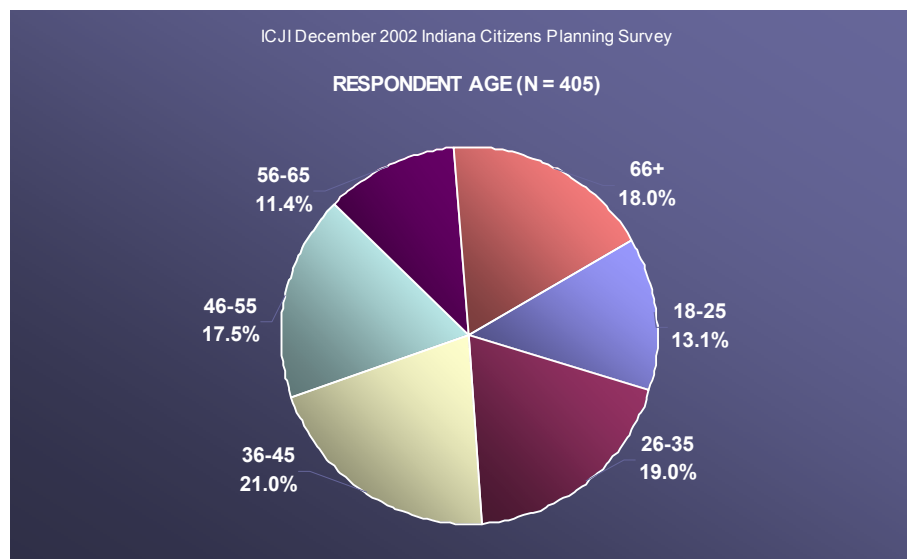
SCR 2



SCR3. What is your age?

- a. 18 to 25
- b. 26 to 35
- c. 36 to 45
- d. 46 to 55
- e. 56 to 65
- f. 66 or older
- f. Don't know
- g. No Answer/refuse

SCR 3



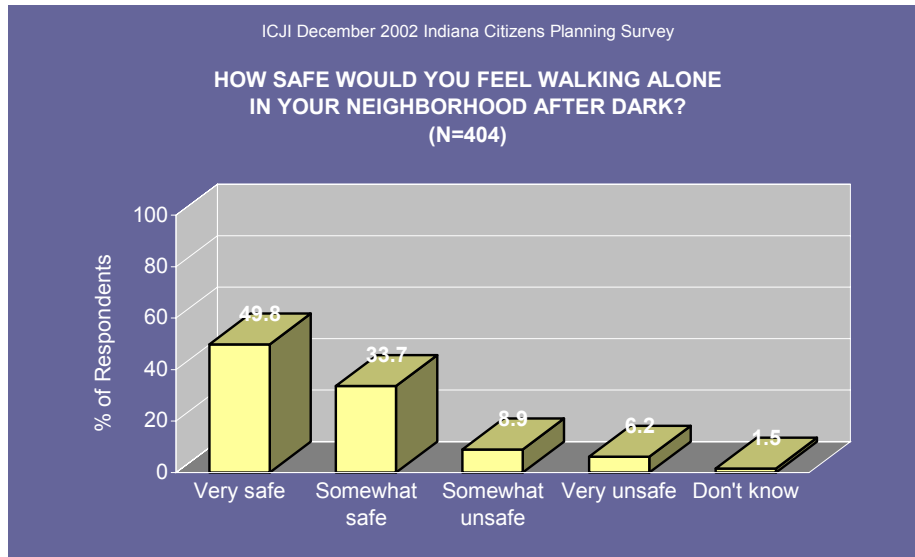
SCR4. What county do you live in?

Note: The distribution of respondents by county is not shown because telephone numbers were selected using random digit dialing with known prefixes to compile a representative sample of all Indiana citizens.

1. How safe would you feel walking alone in your neighborhood after dark? Would you say very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?

- a. Very safe
- b. Very unsafe
- c. Somewhat safe
- d. Don't know
- e. Somewhat unsafe
- f. No answer/refuse

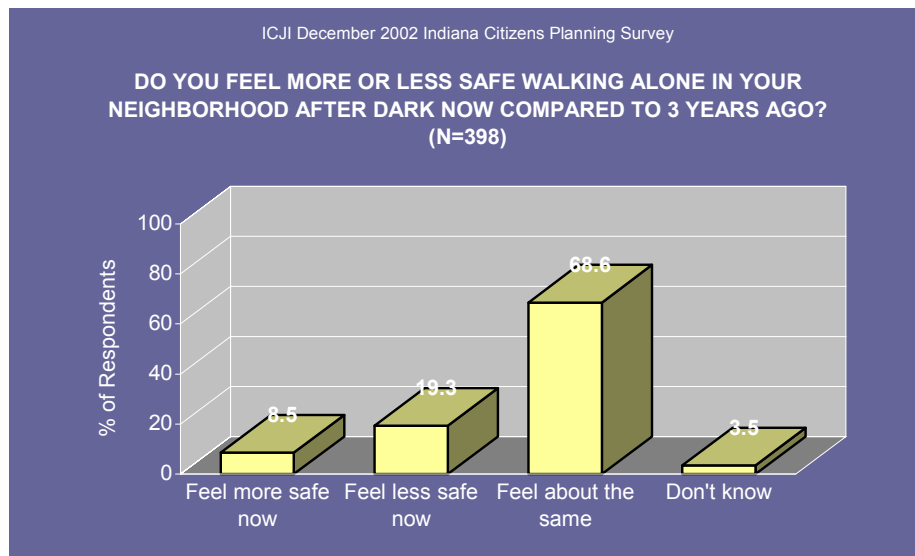
Question 1



2. Would you say you feel more safe, less safe, or about the same level of safety walking alone in your neighborhood after dark now compared to three years ago?

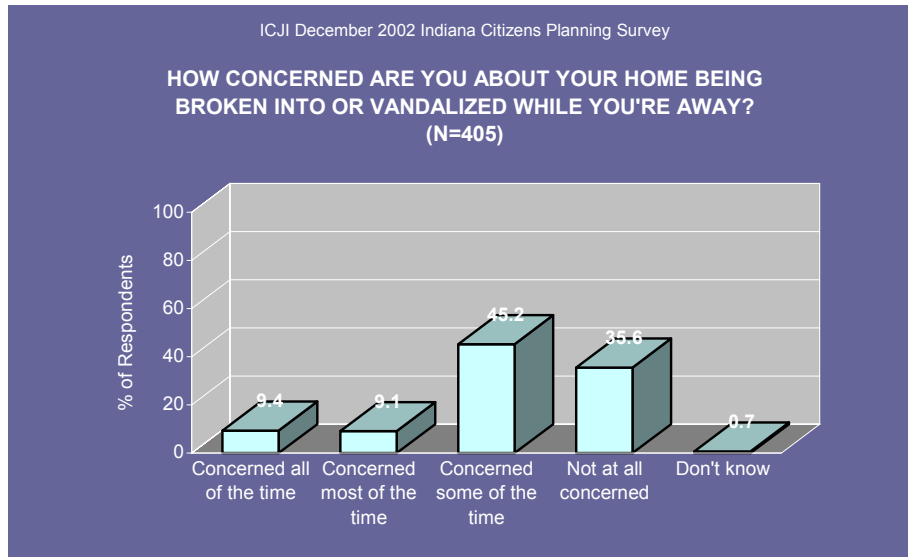
- a. Feel more safe now than three years ago
- b. Feel less safe now than three years ago
- c. About the same
- d. Don't know
- e. No answer/refuse

Question 2



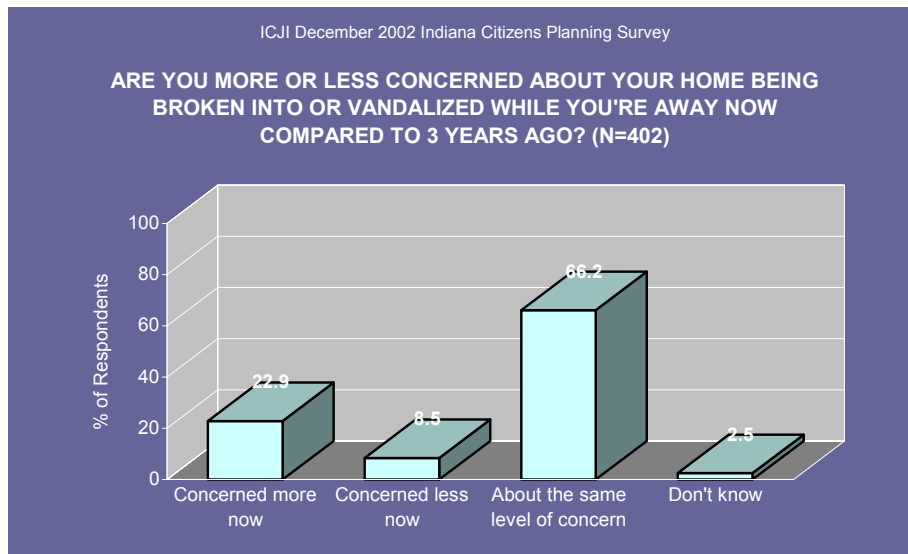
3. How often are you concerned about your home being broken into or vandalized while you're away? Would you say you are concerned about this all of the time, concerned most of the time, concerned some of the time, or not at all concerned about your home being broken into or vandalized while you're away?
 - a. Concerned all of the time
 - b. Concerned most of the time
 - c. Concerned some of the time
 - d. Not at all concerned
 - e. Don't know
 - f. No answer/refuse

Question 3



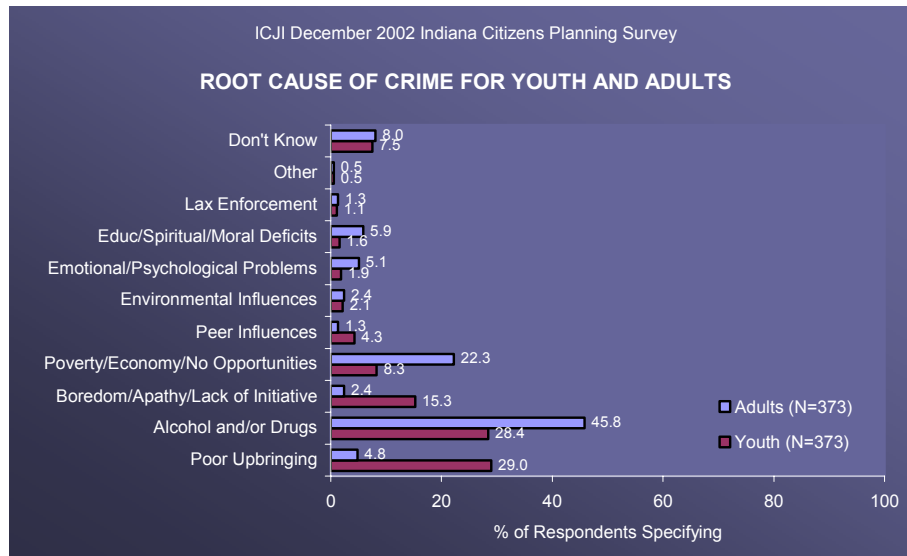
4. Would you say you are more concerned, less concerned, or have about the same level of concern about your home being broken into or vandalized while you're away now compared to three years ago?
 - a. Concerned more now than three years ago
 - b. Concerned less now than three years ago
 - c. About the same level of concern
 - d. Don't know
 - e. No answer/refuse

Question 4



5. If you had to name ONE thing that you think is most often the root cause of crime committed by youth between the ages of 10 and 17, what would it be?
6. If you had to name ONE thing that you think is most often the root cause of crime committed by adults age 18 or older, what would it be?

Questions 5 & 6



7. In your opinion, how often does [drinking alcohol] contribute to individuals committing property crimes? By property crimes we mean crimes like shoplifting, theft, and burglary. Would you say never, very little of the time, about half of the time, most of the time, or always?

[smoking marijuana]

[taking drugs such as cocaine, club drugs, methamphetamine, or other similar substances]

- a. Never
- b. Very little of the time
- c. About half of the time
- d. Most of the time
- e. Always
- f. Don't know
- g. No answer/Refuse

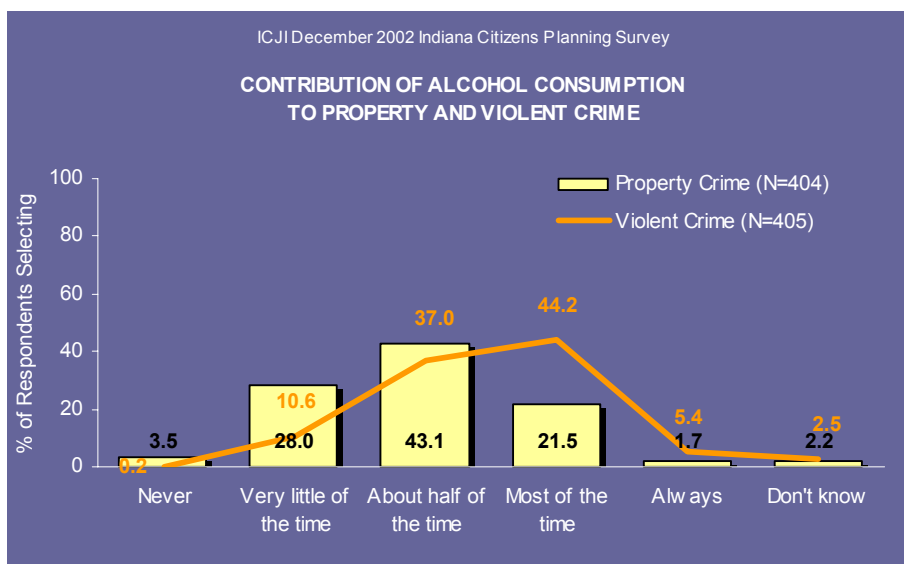
8. In your opinion, how often does [drinking alcohol] contribute to individuals committing violent crimes? By violent crime we mean crimes that threaten or involve bodily harm, such as assault or battery. Would you say never, very little of the time, about half of the time, most of the time, or always?

[smoking marijuana]

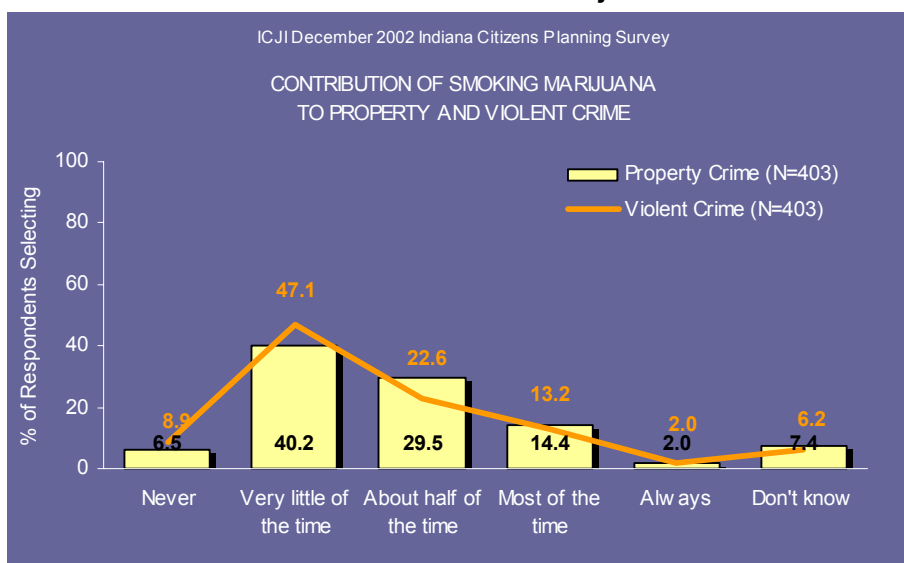
[taking drugs such as cocaine, club drugs, methamphetamine, or other similar substances]

- a. Never
- b. Very little of the time
- c. About half of the time
- d. Most of the time
- e. Always
- f. Don't know
- g. No answer/Refuse

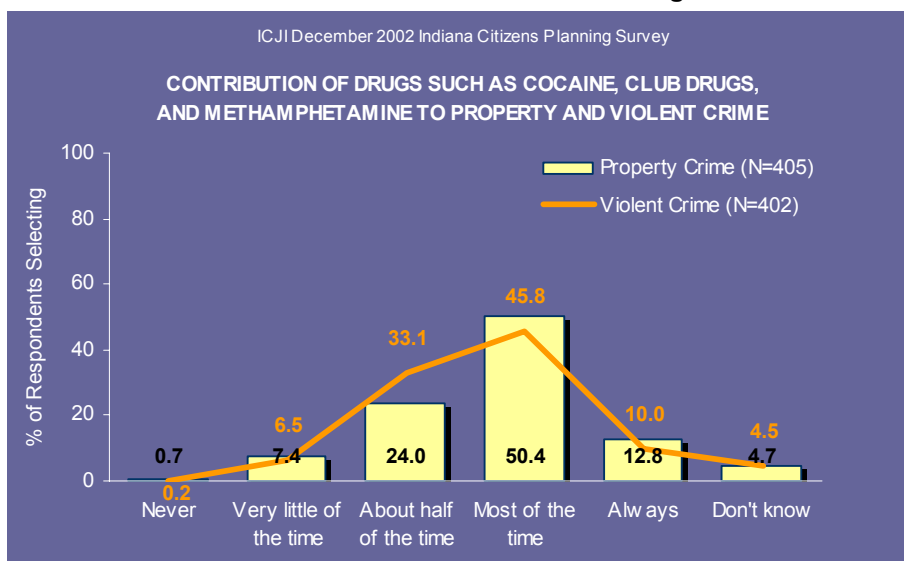
Questions 7 & 8 - Alcohol



Questions 7 & 8 - Marijuana

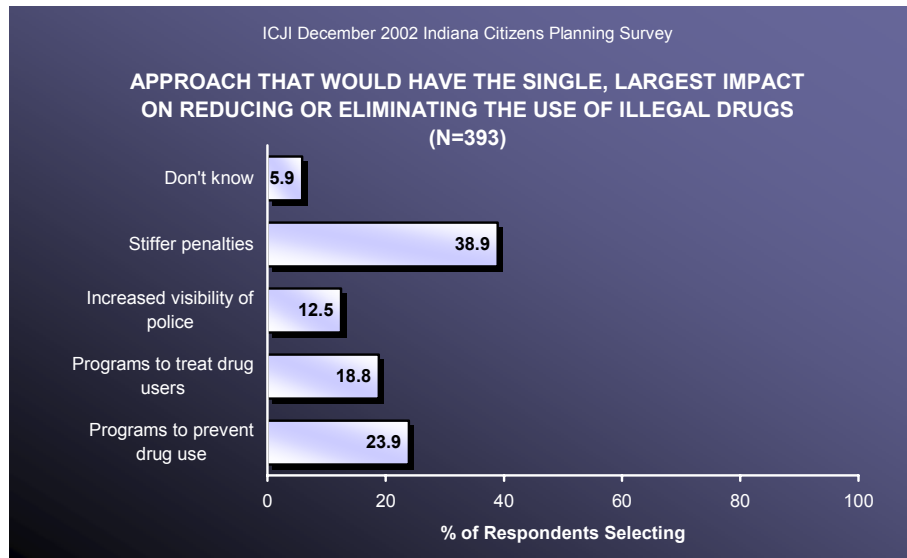


Questions 7 & 8 - Other Drugs



9. In your opinion, which ONE of the following approaches would have the single, largest impact on reducing or eliminating the use of illegal drugs?
- a. More programs to prevent people from using illegal drugs in the first place
 - b. More programs to treat people who use illegal drugs
 - c. Increased visibility of police in communities
 - d. Stiffer penalties for people who use illegal drugs
 - e. Don't know
 - f. No answer/Refuse

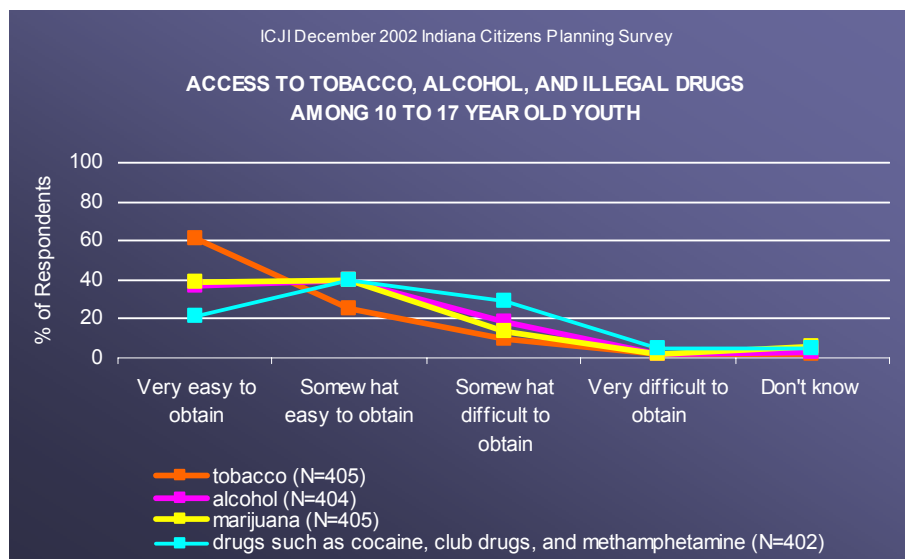
Question 9



10. In your opinion, how much access do youth between the ages of 10 and 17 have to [Tobacco]? Would you say that [Tobacco] [is/are] very easy to obtain, somewhat easy to obtain, somewhat difficult to obtain, or very difficult to obtain?
- [Alcohol]
- [Marijuana]
- [Drugs such as cocaine, club drugs, methamphetamine, or other similar substances]

- a. Very easy to obtain
- b. Somewhat easy to obtain
- c. Somewhat difficult to obtain
- d. Very difficult to obtain
- e. Don't know
- f. No answer/Refuse

Question 10



11. How often do you think alcohol and/or illegal drugs contribute to [school failures] among youth between the ages of 10 and 17? Would you say never, very little of the time, about half of the time, most of the time, or always?

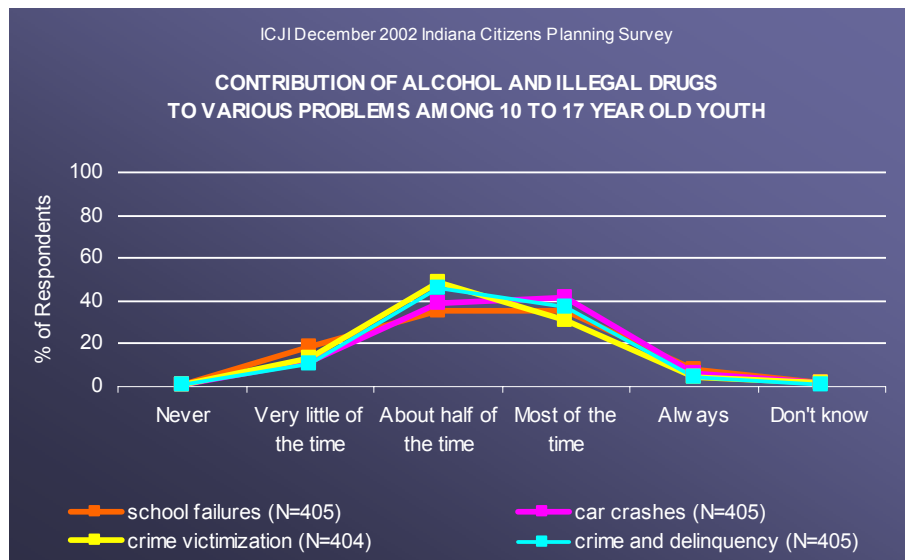
[car crashes]

[crime victimization]

[crime and delinquency]

- a. Never
- b. Very little of the time
- c. About half of the time
- d. Most of the time
- e. Always
- f. Don't know
- g. No answer/ Refuse

Question 11



12. In Indiana, 16 and 17 year-old youth who commit certain crimes that would be felonies if committed by an adult can be automatically tried in an adult court, without the case first being reviewed by a juvenile court judge. This practice can result in more severe penalties for youth, such as being sentenced to serve time in an adult prison.

How strongly do you favor or oppose 16 and 17 year-old youth being automatically tried in an adult court for [Dealing drugs if they were previously guilty of a drug offense] without the case first being reviewed by a juvenile court judge? Would you say . . .

[Illegal possession of a firearm]

[Participating in criminal gang activities]

[Carjacking]

[Committing robbery with a deadly weapon or where someone is seriously hurt]

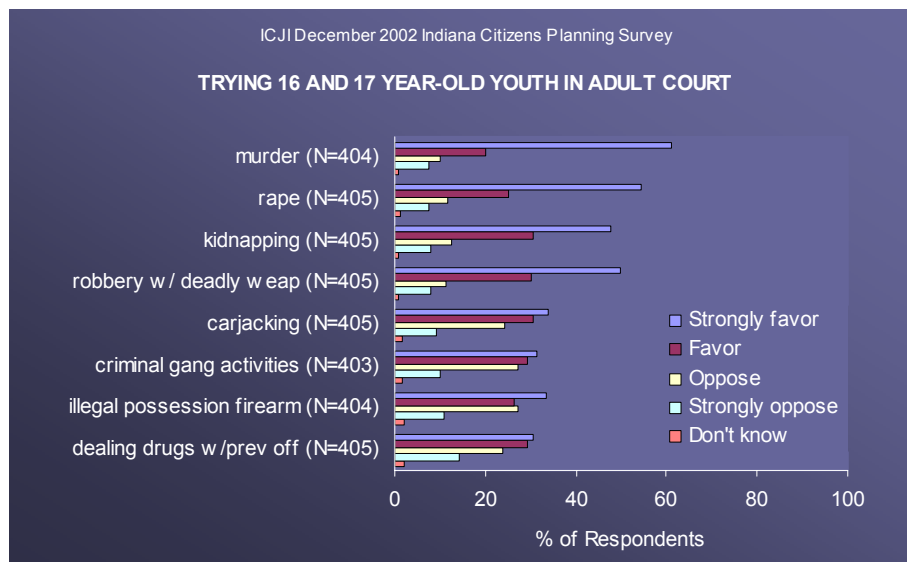
[Kidnapping]

[Rape]

[Murder]

- a. Strongly favor
- b. Favor
- c. Oppose
- d. Strongly oppose
- e. Don't know
- f. No answer/refuse

Question 12

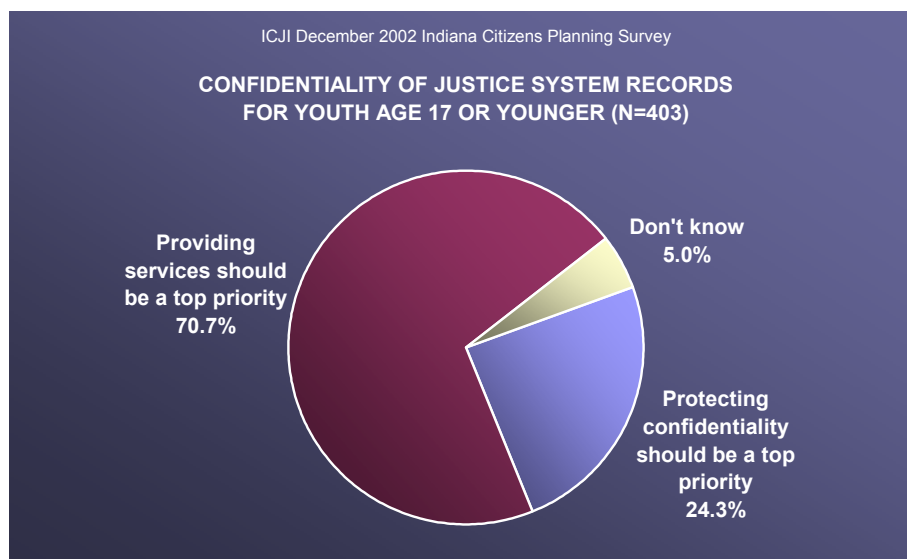


13. Justice system records for youth age 17 or younger who commit crimes typically are treated as strictly confidential. This means that justice records describing crimes committed by a young person typically cannot be shared with schools or agencies that may provide services for youth.

Which of the following statements best characterizes your views on this issue? Would you say. . .

- Protecting the confidentiality of justice records for youth who commit crimes should be a top priority, even if the records might help others provide services.
- Providing services for youth who commit crimes should be a top priority, even if that means that justice records are no longer treated as strictly confidential.
- Don't know
- No answer/refuse

Question 13



14. Would you know where to go in your community if you needed assistance [dealing with the emotional impact of a violent crime]? By violent crime we mean crimes that threaten or involve bodily harm, such as assault or battery.

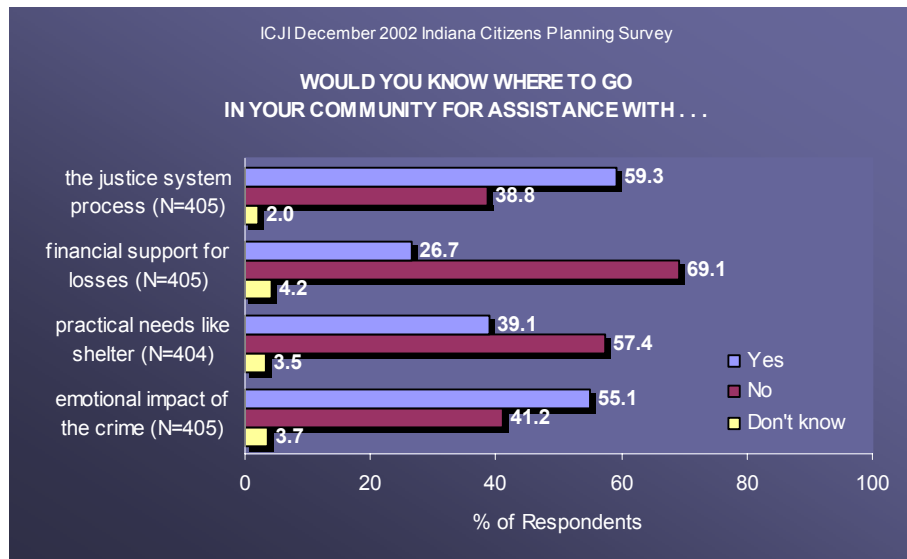
[with practical needs arising because of a violent crime such as transportation and shelter]

[with financial support for expenses and losses associated with a violent crime]

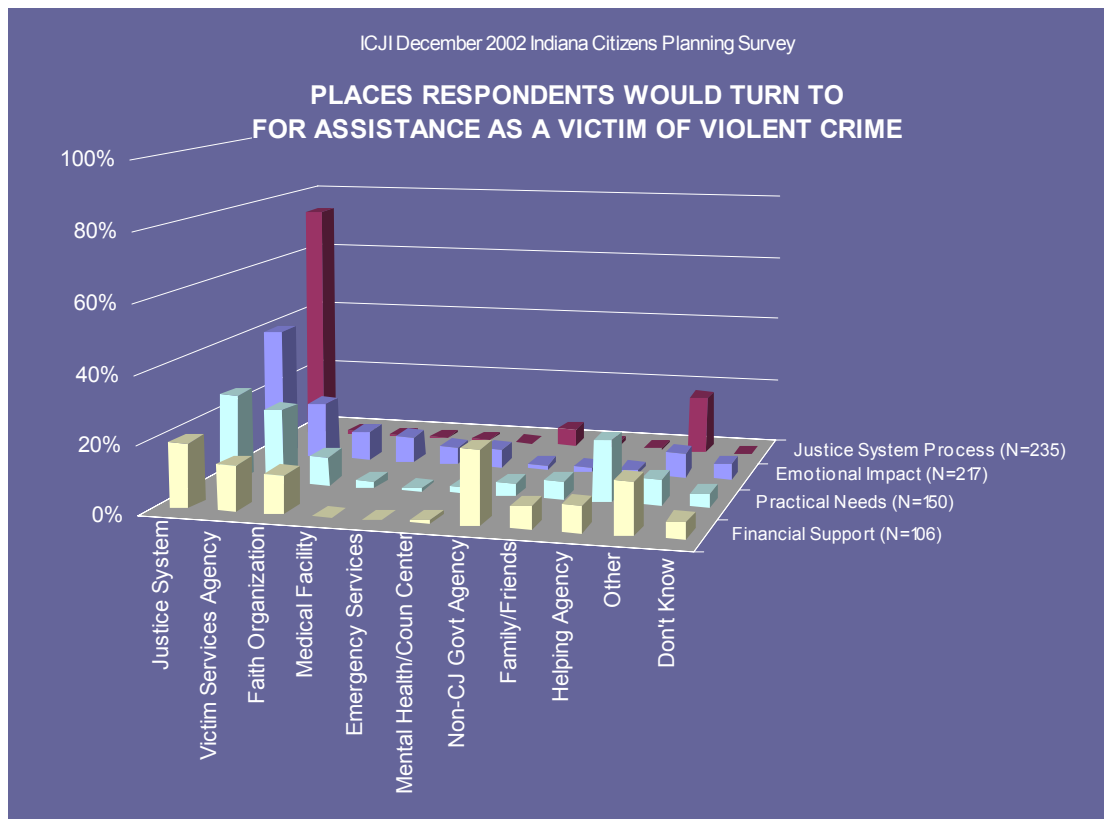
[with the justice system process for investigating and prosecuting a violent crime]

- Yes – If yes, can you tell us the type of agency or organization or the specific name of the place or places you would go?
- No
- Don't know
- No Answer/refuse

Question 14



Question 14a

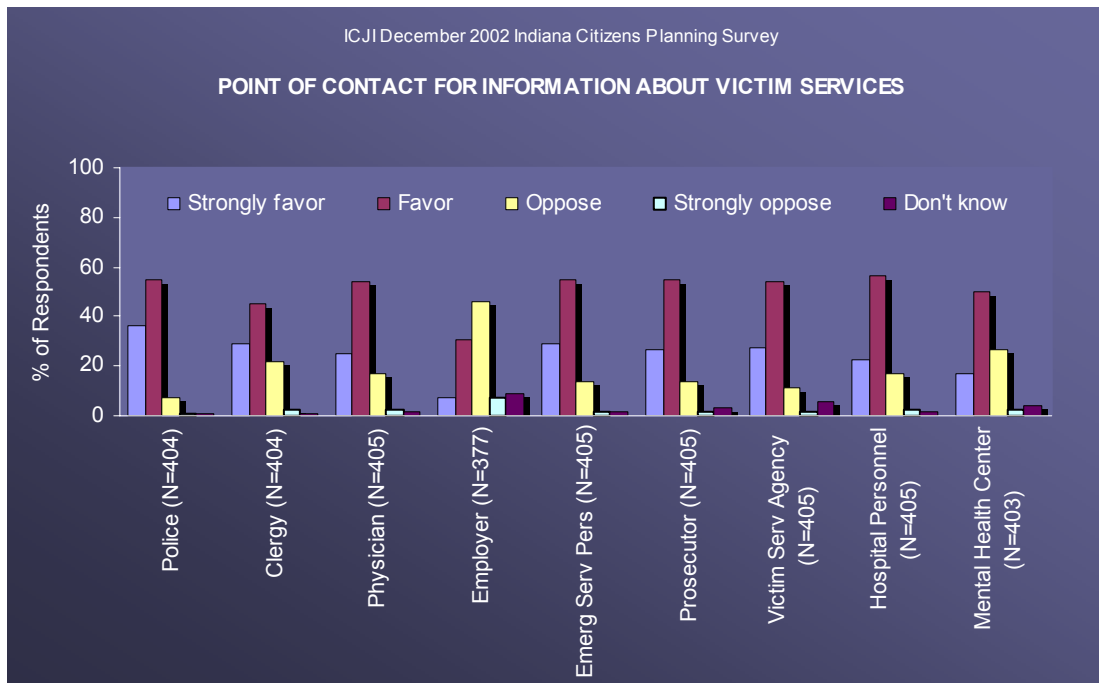


15. I'm going to read a list of professionals you might like to be able to turn to as the initial point of contact for information about services available to you as a victim of violent crime. As I'm reading, please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that you would like to be able to turn to this type of professional as the initial point of contact for information about services available to you.

Note: The question administered by the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory appears as edited above. However, we intended the question to be asked as indicated without eliminating the stricken text.

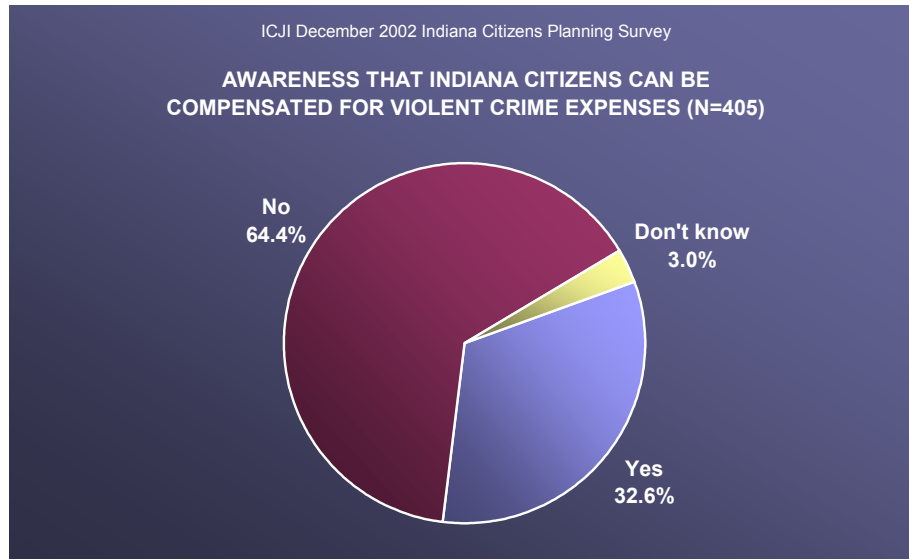
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	No Answer/Refused
a	Police officers	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
b	Ministers, Rabbi's, or Priests	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
c	Your physician	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
d	Your employer	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
e	Emergency services personnel such as firemen and EMTs	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
f	The prosecutor's office	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
g	A victim service agency or organization	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
h	Hospital personnel	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
i	A mental health center	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA

Question 15



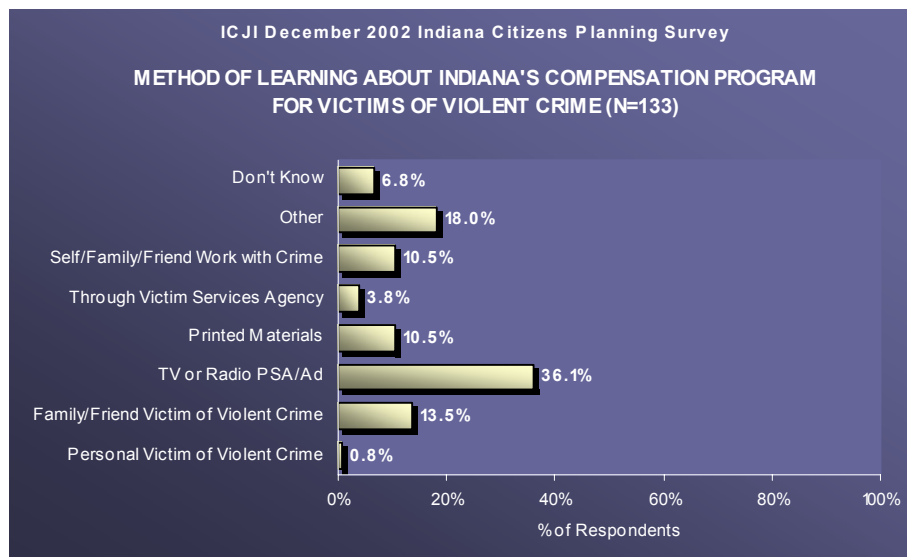
16. Are you aware that Indiana citizens victimized by a violent crime can be compensated for expenses associated with the crime such as medical bills and funeral expenses? By violent crime we mean crimes that threaten or involve bodily harm, such as assault or battery.
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
 - No answer/refuse

Question 16



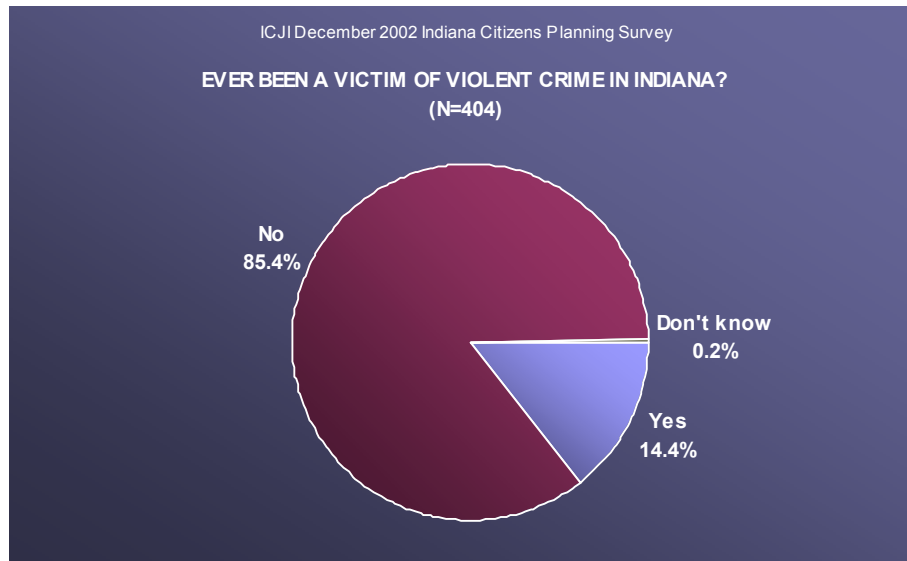
17. How did you learn about Indiana's compensation program for victims of violent crime?
- I was victimized by a violent crime.
 - A family member or a friend was victimized by a violent crime.
 - I saw/heard a public service announcement/ad.
 - I saw/read a poster, pamphlet, or brochure.
 - I heard about it through a victim services agency or organization.
 - I work in a profession that deals with crime victims.
 - Other (specify):
 - Don't know
 - No answer/Refuse

Question 17



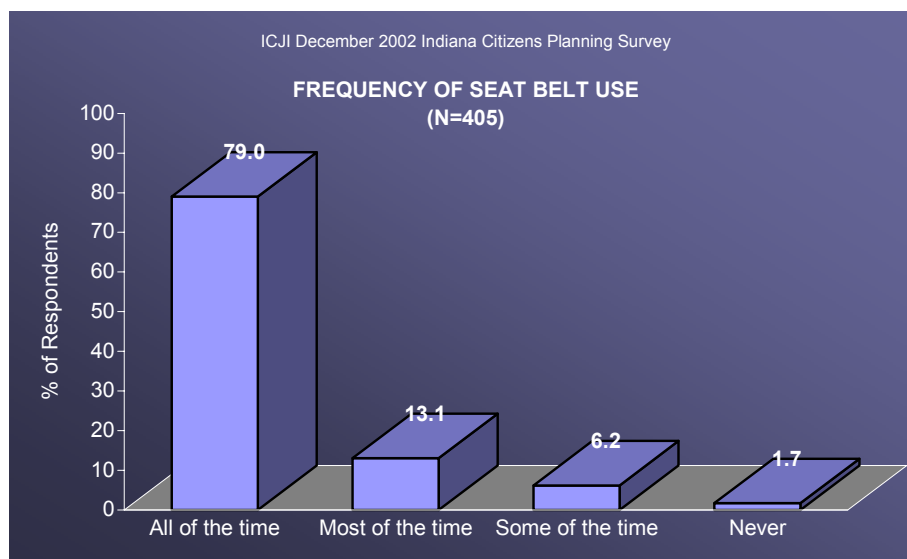
18. Have you ever been a victim of violent crime in Indiana? By violent crime we mean crimes that threaten or involve bodily harm, such as assault or battery.
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know
 - d. No Answer/refuse

Question 18



19. When driving or riding in a car, sport utility vehicle, van, minivan, pickup truck or some other type of vehicle, how often do you wear a your seat belt? Would you say all of the time, most of the time, some of the time or never?
- a. All of the time
 - b. Most of the time
 - c. Some of the time
 - d. Never
 - e. Don't Know
 - f. No Answer/Refuse

Question 19

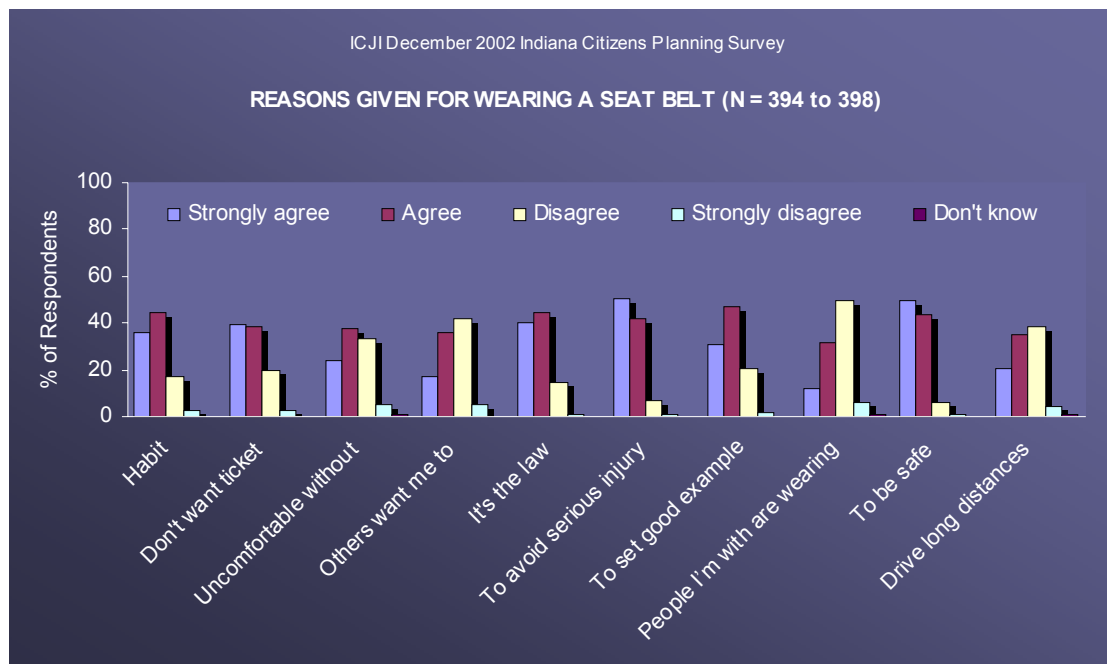


20. I'm going to read a list of reasons why you might wear a seat belt when driving or riding in a vehicle. As I'm reading, please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that each reason applies to you. When I wear a seat belt, I do so because . . .

Note: Item g was administered by the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory as edited below. However, we intended the item to be asked as indicated without eliminating the stricken text and without the addition of words in red text.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	No Answer/Refused
a	It's a habit	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
b	I don't want to get a ticket	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
c	I'm uncomfortable without it	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
d	Others want me to wear it	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
e	It's the law	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
f	I want to avoid serious injury	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
g	I want to set a good example for to others	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
h	The people I'm with are wearing one	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
i	I want to be safe in a vehicle	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
j	I drive long distances	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA

Question 20

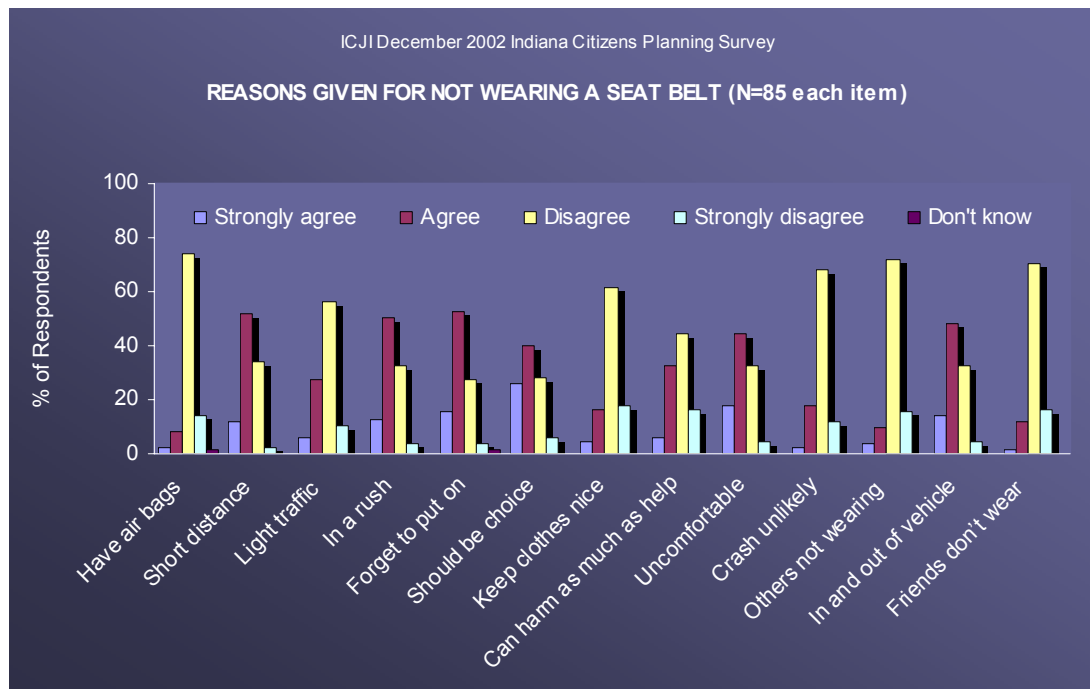


21. I'm going to read **you** a list of reasons why you might NOT wear a seat belt when driving or riding in a vehicle. As I'm reading, please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that each reason applies to you. Sometimes I do not wear ~~a~~ **my** seat belt because . . .

Note: The question administered by the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory appears as edited above. However, we intended the question to be asked as indicated without eliminating the stricken text and without the addition of words in red text.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	No Answer/Refused
a	My vehicle is equipped with air bags	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
b	I'm only driving a short distance	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
c	I'm driving in light traffic	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
d	I'm in a rush	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
e	I forget to put it on	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
f	It should be a personal choice, not a law	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
g	I don't want to wrinkle my clothes	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
h	Seat belts are just as likely to harm me as to help me	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
i	It's uncomfortable or doesn't fit properly	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
j	The chance of being in a crash is too low	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
k	The people I'm with are not wearing seat belts	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
l	I'm in and out of my vehicle a lot	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA
m	My friends don't wear seat belts	SA	A	D	SD	DK	NA

Question 21



22. I'd like you to think about someone you know who doesn't wear a seat belt all of the time. If that person were stopped and fined [\$25.00] for not wearing a seat belt, would this person . . .

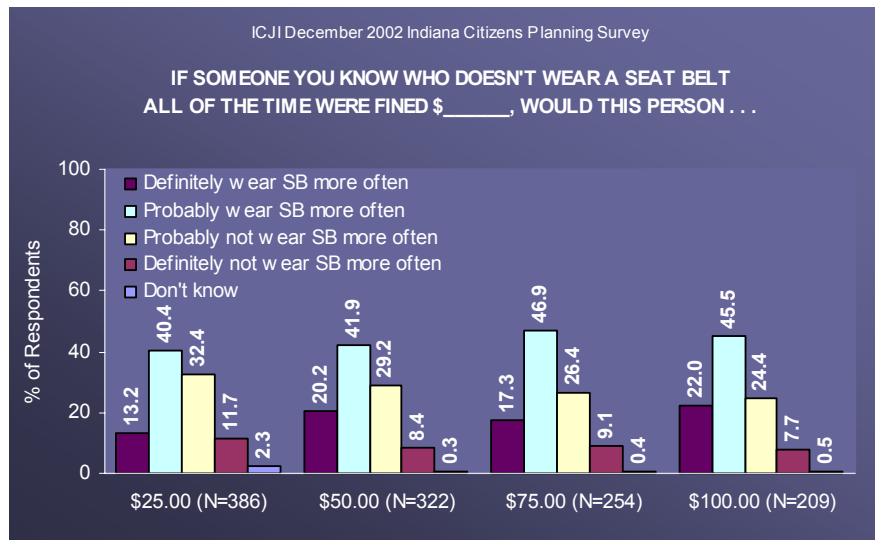
[\$50.00]

[\$75.00]

[\$100.00]

- a. Definitely wear a seat belt more often
- b. Probably wear a seat belt more often
- c. Probably not wear a seat belt more often
- d. Definitely not wear a seat belt more often
- e. Don't know
- f. No answer/refuse

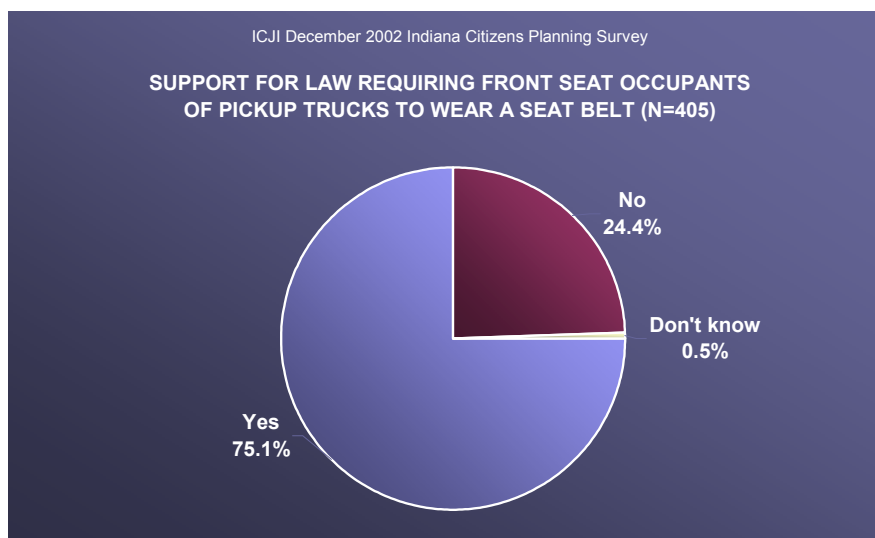
Question 22



23. Pickup trucks are currently excluded from Indiana's law that requires front seat occupants of motor vehicles to wear seat belts. Would you be supportive of a new law that requires front seat occupants of pickup trucks to wear seat belts?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know
- d. No answer/refuse

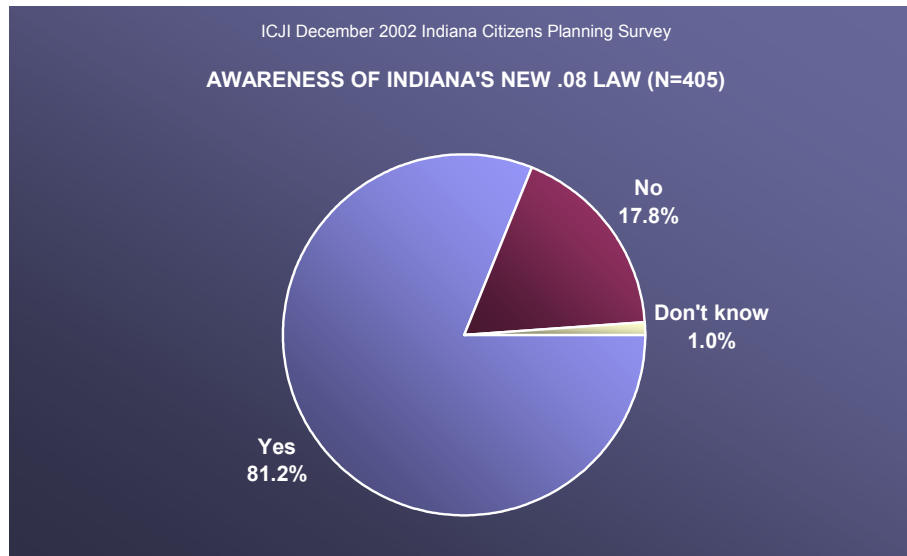
Question 23



24. Recently Indiana became a .08 state. .08 is the blood alcohol level at which drivers are considered legally under the influence of alcohol and can be arrested for impaired driving. Are you aware of Indiana's new law?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know
- d. No answer/refuse

Question 24

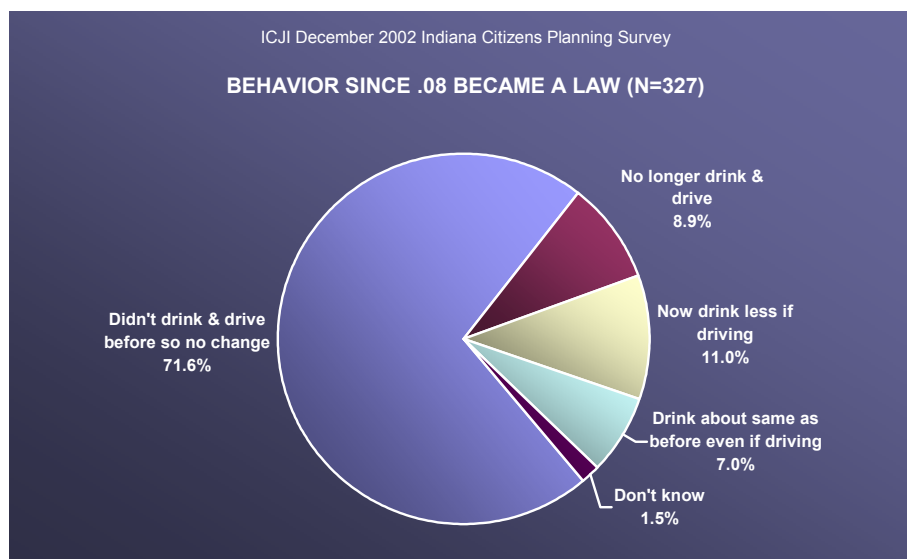


25. Which one of the following best describes your behavior since .08 became a law:

Note: The response options administered by the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory appear as edited below. However, we intended the response options to be presented as indicated without eliminating the stricken text.

- a. I didn't drink, ~~or drink~~ and drive, before .08 became a law so the law has not changed my behavior
- b. I no longer drive after drinking or I ~~now~~ use a designated driver
- c. I ~~now~~ drink less if I am going to drive
- d. I drink about the same as before, even if I am going to drive
- e. Don't know
- f. No answer/refuse

Question 25



26. Do any of the people you know well ever [drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs]?

[drive when they are so tired they might nod off to sleep]

[drive aggressively by tailgating, speeding, or cutting other drivers off]

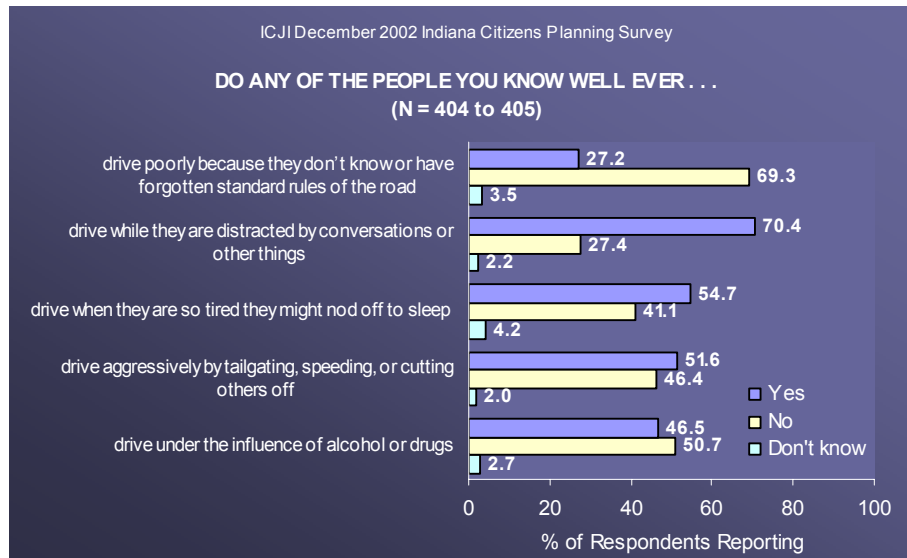
[drive while they are distracted by conversations or other things]

[drive poorly because they don't know or have forgotten standard rules of the road]

- a. Yes
- b. No

- c. Don't know
- d. No answer/refuse

Question 26



27. Since the events of September 11, 2001, preparing for terrorism attacks has become a priority in most states, including Indiana. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that Indiana is doing a good job preparing for events like September 11, 2001?

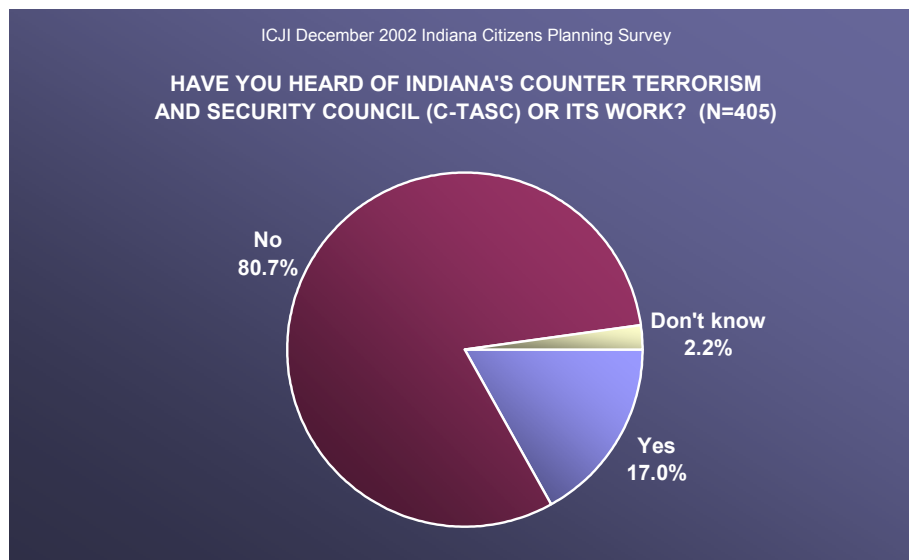
- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly Disagree
- e. Don't know/ Don't have enough information
- f. No answer/refuse

Question 27



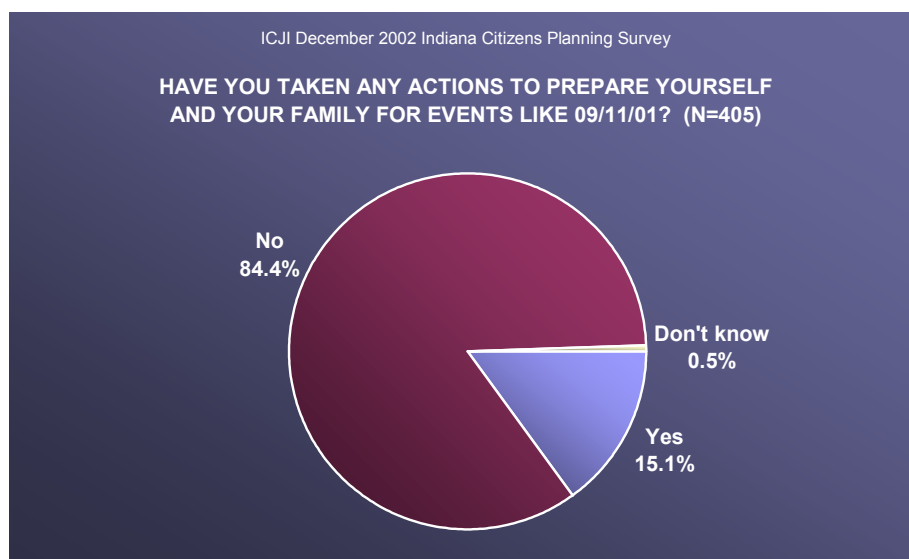
28. Indiana's Counter Terrorism and Security Council – also known as C-TASC -- serves as Indiana's liason to the federal Office of Homeland Security which was established in response to the events of September 11, 2001. The mission of C-TASC is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to address terrorism in Indiana. Have you heard of C-TASC or its work?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know
 - d. No answer/refuse

Question 28



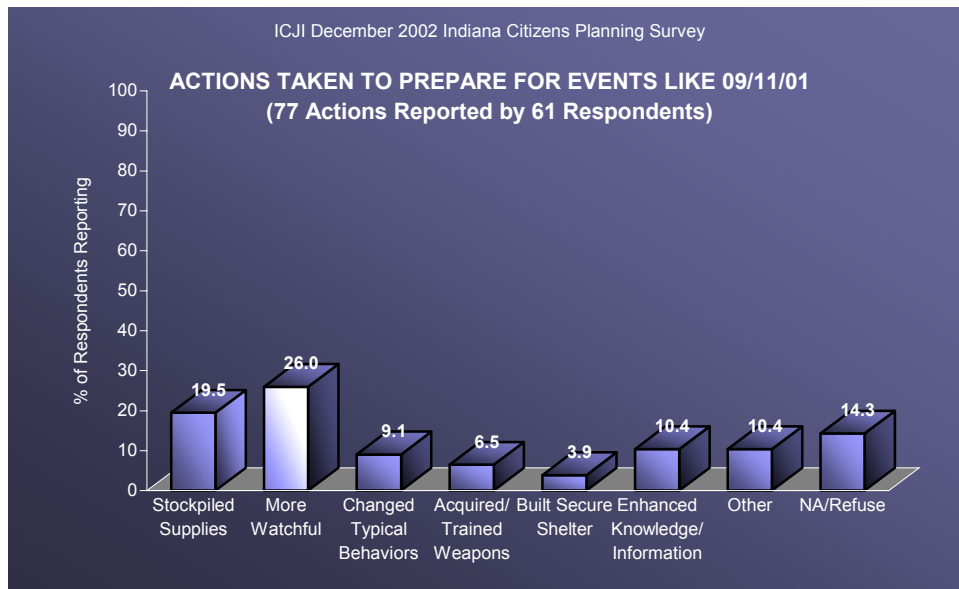
29. Have you taken any specific actions to prepare yourself and your family for events like September 11, 2001?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know
 - d. No answer/refuse

Question 29



30. Can you tell us the types of actions you have taken:

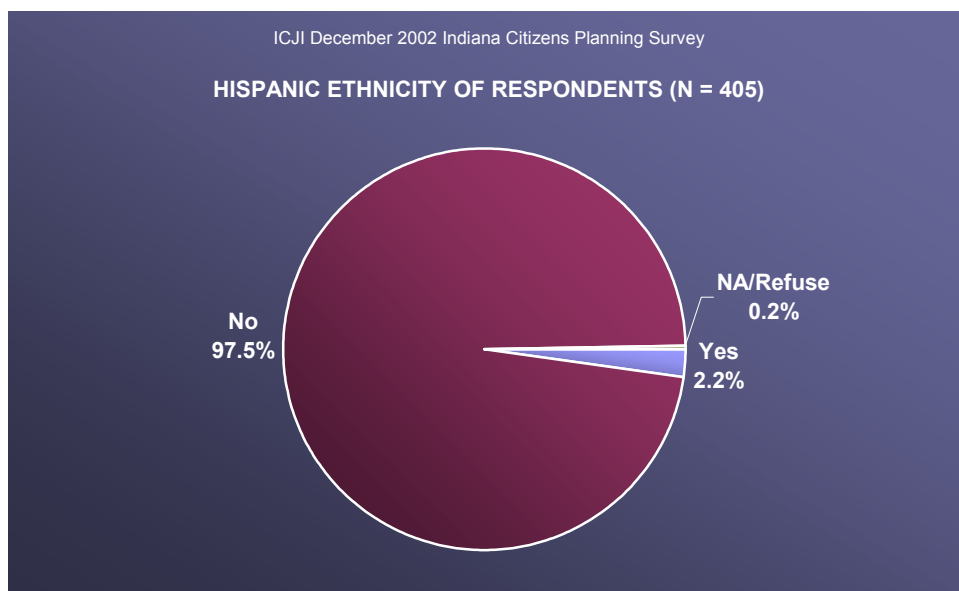
Question 30



31. Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know
- d. No answer/refuse

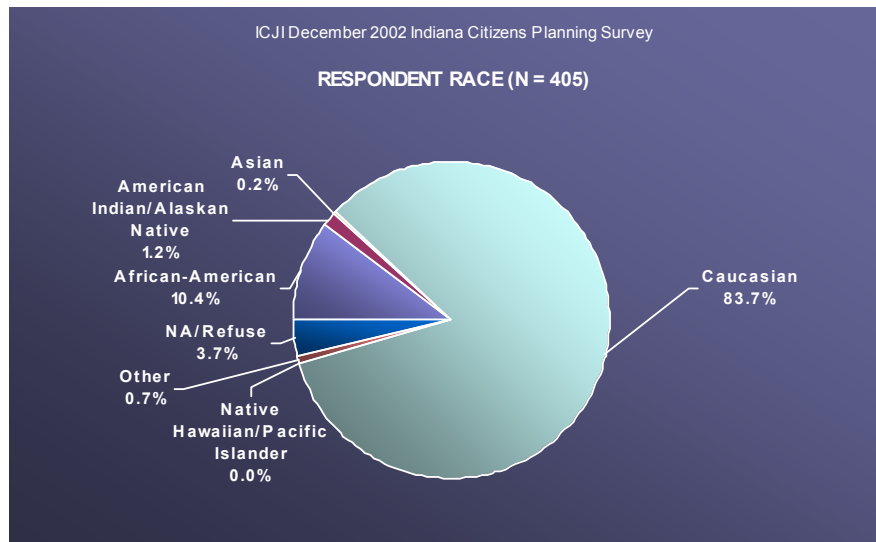
Question 31



32. What is your race or ethnic identity

- a. African American/Black
- b. American Indian/Alaskan Native
- c. Asian
- d. Caucasian/White
- e. Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- f. Other [specify]:
- g. Don't know
- h. No answer/refuse

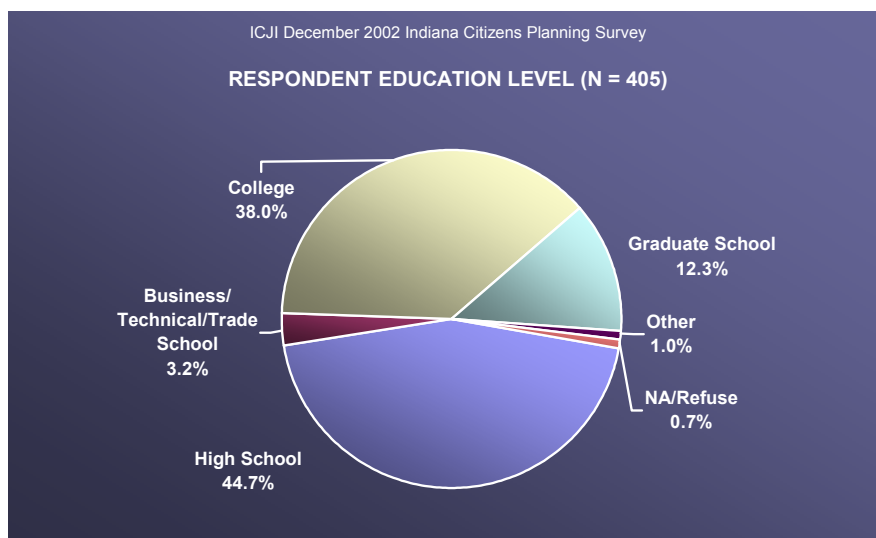
Question 32



33. What is the highest level of education you have completed to date?

- a. High school
- b. Business/technical/trade school
- c. Some college courses
- d. Two-year college degree
- e. Four-year college degree
- f. Some graduate school courses
- g. Graduate school degree
- h. Other [specify]:
- i. Don't know
- j. No Answer/refuse

Question 33



34. Are you the parent of any youth between the ages of 10 and 17?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know
- d. No Answer/refuse

Question 34

